

I call on you to hold an official public hearing in my state.

Before the disastrous 2003 decision to weaken media ownership rules (which a federal court has now overturned), you held only one official public hearing. Further, FCC officials met behind closed doors 71 times with major broadcasters – but only five times with public interest groups. And to justify your actions, you used deceptive, industry-sponsored research data.

The will of Big Media had been heeded at the expense of American citizens and democracy itself. This has to end. Before you rewrite the ownership rules, I demand an official public FCC hearing in my state, impartial and verifiable research, and transparent debates.

It is time to put the needs of democracy – a diverse, skeptical, independent and competitive media system – ahead of profit-hungry media giants.

Chairman Powell and the FCC:

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I worked in the radio/TV industry for 20 plus years as talent on air.

I'm worried that with the current technology available: computers running the board and network feeds....that we are losing the local touch with local stations when not in morning or afternoon drive.

A DJ from another city is not what I really want to hear if the station is on "Auto Pilot" to save money.

Sincerely,

John Weitz

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